

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173833

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SOBER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR, US

SUBJECT: BELL HELICOPTER COPRODUCTION

1. AS YOU KNOW, CONTRACT BETWEEN BELL AND GOI ON HELICOPTER COPRODUCTION INCLUDED VERY WIDE SALES AREA WITHOUT CONDITION OF PRIOR US APPROVAL FOR EACH SALE. BELL WAS INFORMED THAT UNCONDITIONAL SALES AREA WAS CONTRARY TO US POLICY AND THAT CONTRACT WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGED TO PROVIDE FOR PRIOR US APPROVAL ON CASE BY CASE BASIS.

2. ATKINS, BELL PRESIDENT, HAS REQUESTED RECONSIDERATION OF THIS DECISION IN LETTER TO MUNITIONS CONTROL AND HE HAS APPOINTMENT WITH ME AFTERNOON JULY 15. AMONG OTHER POINTS MADE IN HIS LETTER IS FOLLOWING: "THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AND BELL WERE CARRIED OUT IN LATE 1975 WITH THE FULL KNOWLEDGE, AND ASSUMED BLESSING, OF THE U. S. GOVERNMENT. DURING NEGOTIATIONS, WE WERE IN CONTACT WITH THE U. S. EMBASSY AND THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WAS AN ADVISOR TO THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF IRAN IN REACHING THIS AGREEMENT. IF

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THE THIRD COUNTRY SALES RIGHTS WERE NOW FURTHER LIMITED, IT

WOULD SEEM THAT IT WOULD BE A MATTER OF GREAT CONCERN TO

THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AND OF SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT TO  
THE U. S. GOVERNMENT."

3. IN 75 STATE 260708, WE SENT TO YOU, FOR PRESENTATION  
TO SHAH, GUIDELINES WHICH WOULD GOVERN SALE OF COPRODUCED  
ITEMS. AS I RECALL, THIS MATERIAL WAS PRESENTED PRIOR TO  
SIGNING OF BELL CONTRACT.

4. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON ACCURACY OF  
PARA QUOTED IN THREE ABOVE AND YOUR THOUGHTS ON LIKELY  
IRANIAN REACTION WHEN BELL REOPENS CONTRACT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUN 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELL HELICOPTER COPRODUCTION  
**TAGS:** MILI, IR, US  
**To:** TEHRAN  
**Type:** TE  
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